

23 AUG 1948

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GENERAL

1. Iran advised to air Soviet threats in UN--The Department of State has expressed to US Embassy Tehran its concern that the current Moscow conversations, whatever their outcome, may be followed by an immediate focusing of Soviet attention upon Iran. The Department accordingly believes that Iran should be prepared to "publicize through the UN at the earliest appropriate moment the Soviet threat to Iranian independence." (The Department has particular reference to the threatening notes recently delivered to the Iranian Government by the Soviet Ambassador.)

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NEAR EAST-AFRICA

2. PALESTINE: Israel reported increasingly restive under truce-- Following conversations with Premier Ben-Gurion and Foreign Minister Shertok, US Special Representative McDonald in Tel Aviv estimates that: (a) Israel is not about to take deliberate overt action in violation of the truce; and (b) if an increasingly tense situation is to be relieved, there must be evidence of a "measurable progress toward peace" in the near future. According to McDonald, Shertok categorically denied reported Jewish plans for general military action in Jerusalem or northern Galilee but asserted that the indefinite continuation of the truce, without any move toward a final peace settlement, was creating an intolerable financial and manpower situation for Israel.

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State Department review completed

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